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P. 4

INFUSING INSPIRATION

**LISA SACKUVICH '81,
RN, BSN, CRNI**



Avila University's Alumni Magazine
FALL 2018

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homecoming
weekend

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DEAR ALUMNI & FRIENDS,

About a year ago,

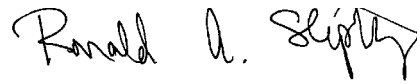
we announced a clearer, more affordable path to a quality Avila education, the Avila Promise. It created quite a stir. We saw our transfer student enrollment numbers rise in both the spring and fall. We now have an entire campus of undergraduate students who will not have to worry about finding money in addition to their tuition for books and campus fees. Our first-year students are looking forward to the travel opportunities that the Avila Promise will help make more affordable. They're preparing themselves for an upcoming internship and research experience opportunity. Also, if they take advantage of our on-time graduation promise, they'll graduate from Avila with less debt.

It will take the hard work of our exceptional faculty and staff, along with our quality learning environment and the values and charisma given to us by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet to fulfill our promises. We've recruited Alexandra Adams, Ed.D, as vice president for enrollment management and Anastasia Caffrey, MBA, as director of community engagement to help us capitalize on our

momentum. We've strengthened our graduate offerings even further by adding a master's degree in kinesiology and through a partnership with Saint Louis University, a master's in social work.

The power of the Avila Promise is enriching the value of an Avila degree. We are giving students opportunities to make a difference through practical experiences and travel experiences, in addition to their learning in the classroom. The support of alumni and friends like you make it possible for us to engage students and prepare them for a bright future, and I am grateful. Thank you for all you do for Avila!

Gratefully,



Ronald A. Slepitz, Ph.D., CSJA
President



The power of the **Avila Promise** is enriching the value of an Avila degree. We are giving students opportunities to make a difference through practical experiences and travel experiences, in addition to their learning in the classroom.





Inspiration at the President's Circle

Robert & Terry '79 Fisher and TRIO honored
at the President's Circle Reception

It is a tradition

at the annual President's Circle Reception for President Ronald Slepitz, Ph.D., CSJA, to induct new members into the Father Medaille Giving Society and present the Avila Medal of Honor. During the reception in October, Robert and Terry '79 Fisher received the Medal of Honor and TRIO was inducted into the Father Medaille Society for those contributing more than \$1 million to Avila.

President Slepitz bestowed the Avila Medal of Honor to the Fishers, who have given of themselves for four decades to advance the University. The Medal of Honor is given to those that have been outstanding representatives of Avila's mission in the community, made significant contributions to Avila, exemplified service of the dear neighbor and embody the Avila values. The couple was recruited as leaders in the 1970s by then Avila president, S. Olive Louise Dallavis, CSJ, whom Terry had known from grade school music lessons. Bob served on the Board of Counselors and Board of Trustees, including serving as Board Chair, and the couple helped found the President's Scholarship Club. The Fishers have helped raise more than \$70 million for the University and have held countless leadership roles. They established the Bob and Terry Fisher Endowed Scholarship to help female, first-generation college students and have impacted numerous Avila students through their fundraising leadership.

TRIO was inducted into the Father Medaille Society for its years of support of Avila students. TRIO programs are educational opportunity outreach programs designed to motivate and support students from underrepresented backgrounds to progress through college. In the past two years alone, under the direction of Avila's TRIO program director, Anna McDonald '13, TRIO has contributed nearly \$4 million to Avila through its Student Support Services program and Upward Bound program. Through Student Support Services, more than 150 underrepresented or first-generation college students are provided tutoring, mentoring, academic counseling, career exploration and community service opportunities to help them persist through college. The Upward Bound partnership provides




support to more than 140 high school students at four Kansas City area high schools as they prepare for college.

Avila is proud to honor both the Fishers and TRIO for the lasting impact they have made in the lives of Avila students and alumni. 🙏



Avila Welcomes Seven New Trustees

The Board

of Trustees, chaired by David Kerr '76, welcomed seven new trustees in 2017-18, including Ibraheem T. Badejo, Ph.D., '84, Helen Flemington, CSJ, Patricia D. Lyon, '00, Timothy D. O'Brien '95, Phil Smith, Michael J. Van Dyke and Abigail M. Wendel. "The dedication and excellence these individuals have demonstrated in their careers, combined with their service to the community, make them a perfect fit for Avila's Board of Trustees. We look forward to their strategic insight and leadership on behalf of our University," said President Ron Slepitza, Ph.D., CSJA. 

Department of Justice Grant Expands Eagles Aware Reach

Over the past

three years, Avila has become a leading campus in the awareness and prevention of domestic and dating violence through the Eagles Aware program. Funded with a nearly \$300,000 grant from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), Avila received one of only 57 awards nationwide. Having received an OVW grant in 2015 makes Avila's award this year even more rare.

"The Department of Justice does not give many continuation grants," said Jessica Gerrity, managing director of McAllister & Quinn, a Washington, DC, grant consulting firm. "Avila is always a leader and in the small percentage of schools that do the impossible."

With the majority of Avila students living off-campus, the Eagles Aware program reaches well beyond the campus as students take this information out into the greater Kansas City

community. Thanks to the OVW award, the University will be able to expand the Eagles Aware program to reach more students and community members. The aim for this expansion is to increase campus-wide education and messaging by targeting outreach efforts for upper-classmen, disadvantaged students, athletes, the LGBTQ community, international students and adult learners.

"Creating and maintaining an environment free of harassment and discrimination based on sex is a responsibility that belongs to all of us," said Sara Eckinger, program coordinator for Eagles Aware. "Together, these crucial funds can help us create the kind of culture that makes it clear that we do not permit this type of behavior within our Avila community and beyond." 



A photograph of Lisa Sackuvich, a woman with blonde hair wearing a maroon cardigan over a black top, smiling and talking to a young woman with long blonde hair wearing blue scrubs. They are in a pharmacy or medical supply room with shelves of red and blue bins in the background.

Lisa Sackuvich '81: Don't stop now.

*How Three Words Rippled Out
to Better the Lives of Thousands*



*The faculty prepared
us to be professionals.
They set the bar high.
They held themselves to
high professional standards.
We came out knowing that
we were nurses. You could
tell that they (the faculty)
loved what they did.*

Lisa Sackuvich '81, RN, BSN, CRNI

"I may not have made it

through nursing school without the words of encouragement from Dr. Kay Sullivan," said Lisa Sackuvich '81, RN, BSN, CRNI. Sullivan was her nursing advisor at Avila University and set the theme for Sackuvich's career with three powerful words of encouragement, "Don't stop now."

Sackuvich is the founder and president of ARJ Infusion Services. ARJ provides specialty pharmacy and nursing services to children and adults with rare, chronic and complex conditions across the nation. Started at a time in Sackuvich's life when she was a working mom with three children, living on a nurse's salary, and the banks wouldn't give her the time of day, Sullivan's words again rang true, "Don't stop now." Sackuvich knew from her decades of experience as a nurse and her passion for patient care that there was a better way to provide infusion care and pharmaceutical services to patients. She knew that the company she was starting was the one to provide them.

Today, ARJ ranks among the top private companies and the fastest growing companies in Kansas City. Nationally, the 150-person company ranks among the top 10 percent in home health patient satisfaction. ARJ recently opened their sixth regional infusion suite to offer on-site infusion therapy care for those patients who prefer a clinical setting to home visits.

Unlike more traditional home care situations, ARJ nurses treats patients who require non-oral medication, usually through IV therapy. "It's truly an art and a science, sticking people with needles," said Sackuvich. It is also very personal.

For patients and their families, ARJ nurses are a lifeline. They are teachers and a source of inspiration, hope and freedom. Without ARJ home visits, many of these patients would have to travel hours to a hospital on a regular basis for their therapies. By teaching patients and family members how to administer therapies themselves and giving them the confidence that they absolutely can do this, ARJ nurses are opening up the patient's world. You can hear Sullivan's words, "Don't stop now" when Sackuvich speaks about the difference her nurses make. "Teaching patients and the family gives them their lives back. They can go on vacations again. They're not tied to a nurse; they've got this," said Sackuvich.

With nationwide coverage, ARJ delivers pharmaceutical products and nursing care to patients in urban and rural areas that, from newborns to the elderly with around the clock, seven-days-a-week care. Most of their patients are suffering from long-term conditions like bleeding and clotting disorders and immune deficiencies. "I always knew that I wanted to make a difference. I wanted to provide the type of care for what that individual patient needs," said Sackuvich.

She found kindred spirits in Avila's nursing program. "I felt at home here. It was the perfect choice for me," said Sackuvich.

"The faculty prepared us to be professionals. They set the bar high. They held themselves to high professional standards. We came out knowing that we were nurses," said Sackuvich. "You could tell that they (the faculty) loved what they did."

In 2017, Sackuvich received Avila's Outstanding Alumnus Award for her commitment to the University's mission of lifelong learning and service to the dear neighbor. Returning to her alma mater this October for the 70th anniversary of Avila's nursing program, the commitment to caring Sackuvich sees in the students and the faculty still moves her. "The commitment that Dr. Reagor (Janet Reagor Ph.D., RN, chair, program director and assistant professor of nursing) talked about inspires me. To hear the stories of people who are truly dedicated. To see the Avila students today, I'm inspired that nursing is still the profession with the level of commitment that I experienced as a student."

In addition to Sullivan, many wonderful instructors inspired Sackuvich at Avila, including Beverly Lindsey, Norma Lewis '68 and S. Barbara Moore, CSJ, '62, '15 (Hon.). "Everything I learned at Avila, in both nursing and non-nursing courses, I still draw upon every day," said Sackuvich. However, it might just be those three words of encouragement from her Avila nursing advisor that caused the biggest ripple, leaving a lasting impact on the lives of so many people. "Don't stop now." 📖





As [Avila] University honored the more than 2,000 living nursing alumni, both current and former faculty were celebrated, and alumna Marcia Walsh '73 was presented with the Outstanding Alumni Award.

Nursing Program *Celebrates* 70 Years of Excellence

The School of Nursing's

history goes back to the very foundation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. When the first six Sisters settled in the town of Carondelet, Missouri, outside of St. Louis, their mission of helping those who couldn't help themselves led them across the state to Kansas City. Here, they addressed the residents' health care needs by starting a hospital in 1874. By the turn of the century, the Sisters established the St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing, later affiliating it with College of St. Teresa in 1930, and becoming the first program in the city to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1948.

Seventy years later and with more than 100 nursing alumni, nursing faculty and friends in attendance, Avila's nursing program

was front and center at this October's Homecoming Weekend. As the University honored the more than 2,000 living nursing alumni, both current and former faculty were celebrated, and alumna Marcia Walsh '73 was presented with the Outstanding Alumni Award for her years of leadership in nursing and rural health care. Junior nursing student Jordan Givens shared her belief that Avila's School of Nursing curriculum remains demanding and builds leaders. Janet Reagor, Ph.D., RN, School of Nursing chair, echoed this theme in her address, as did other speakers.

Congratulations for 70 years of excellence in nursing! 🎉

TIMELINE

-  **1931** COLLEGE OF ST. TERESA offers a three-year diploma program
-  **1940** COLLEGE OF ST. TERESA becomes the first four-year college for women in Kansas City
-  **1948** SCHOOL OF NURSING receives its first accreditation from the Missouri State Board of Nursing (MSBN), becoming the first program in the city to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
-  **1952** FIRST NURSING STUDENTS graduate with BSN
-  **1963** COLLEGE OF ST. TERESA becomes Avila College and moves to current location
-  **1966** SCHOOL OF NURSING receives accreditation from the National League for Nursing (NLN)
-  **1969** AVILA COLLEGE becomes coeducational
-  **1972** SCHOOL OF NURSING graduates first male nurses
-  **1974** AVILA COLLEGE becomes the first liberal arts college to establish a Sigma Theta Tau, International Chapter – Beta Lambda.
-  **1975** BORSERINE EDUCATION CENTRE completed
-  **1987** THE NURSING LAB is remodeled
-  **2007** SCHOOL OF NURSING is completely remodeled
-  **2010** SCHOOL OF NURSING awarded the maximum 10-year accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)



Above: Junior Jordan Givins was the nursing student speaker at this year's School of Nursing celebration luncheon.

Marcia Walsh '73 (center) was honored with the University's Outstanding Alumni Award by her classmate, Mary Ellen Clark '73 and President Ronald Slepitz, Ph.D., CSJA

Faculty News



Amity Bryson, DMA, professor of music and chair of the School of Humanities, was awarded a sabbatical to research the jazz of the 1940s in comparison to the development of techno music in Berlin, Germany, during the 1990s. As part of her research, she will spend time on location in Berlin. Bryson has been instrumental in Avila's initiative to globalize the curriculum, which will not only produce valuable scholarship, but also enrich core curriculum classes.



Michalis Koutsoupides, DMA, artist-in-residence, conducted for the productions of *Hairspray* and *The King and I* at Starlight Theatre (Kansas City, Missouri), *Sister Act* and *Mamma Mia* at the New Theatre (Kansas City, Missouri) and has also selected to be the orchestrator for the upcoming world premiere of *Nelly Don*.



Jordan Wagge, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology, co-authored a piece titled "Undergrads Can Improve Psychology," which discussed the importance of undergraduate research projects and appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*.



Brian Buckler, Ph.D., professor of marketing and director of undergraduate business development, submitted a research paper for review titled, "A Comparison of the Short and Long Forms of the Social Dominance Orientation Scale," which compared the social hierarchy between carnists and ethical vegans.



Brad Poos, Ph.D., assistant professor of education, presented "Road Tripping throughout the South: Midwestern Urban and Suburban Youth Exploring the Civil Rights Movement Together" at the American Educational Studies Association in Greenville, South Carolina, in October 2018. 📍



Professor of the Year: Sarah Sanford

Thanks in part to the high standards set by Sarah Sanford '08, M.S. Ed., R.T. (R) (CT), when students graduate with a radiologic science degree from Avila, they are in high demand. Sanford is the clinical coordinator and an instructor in the School of Imaging Sciences, and she was selected by students as the 2018 Professor of the Year.

As an instructor, Sanford believes that it is important to always bring a level of fun into the classroom because that is when you learn best. Her enthusiasm for teaching keeps students engaged, especially as the coursework is complex. "In the field of radiologic science, proper education on positioning matters - we are providing important information for physicians to make an accurate diagnosis."

To keep up with trends and protocols, Sanford works one weekend a month in computed tomography. She brings these real-world applications back into her classroom to share with her students. "With a degree in radiologic science, students are given an opportunity to step directly into the workforce and have an immediate impact on their profession. They are also often given the chance to work in an advanced modality such as ultrasound, MRI, CT, mammography, interventional, cardiac imaging, nuclear medicine or radiation therapy," said Sanford.

As clinical coordinator, Sanford spends much of her time at clinical sites to observe how students are applying radiologic science principles. "At the end of the day, it is rewarding to observe the applications that students are making in the field," said Sanford. 📍

Discovering Avila's Rich CSJ Heritage and History

Two Avila students, along with 16 students from other Associated Colleges of Sisters of St. Joseph (ACSSJ), immersed themselves in history of the Sisters of St. Joseph this summer. Mary Sommerhauser, a senior graphic design major and Morgan Berhorst, a junior in nursing, traveled to Le Puy-en-Velay, France, to learn more about the founding and charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

During their week-long trip, Sommerhauser and Berhorst visited the original kitchen where the first sisters met for prayer and prepared their meals. The kitchen is in close proximity to Chapel St. Michel, a historic 10th-century chapel that was built on top of a volcano. They also discovered the lacemaking of Le Puy, which was how the first sisters sustained themselves and is what Le Puy is internationally known for today.

"The symbolic meaning of the lace is the sisters weaving relationships through their ministries to create an intricate unity of people woven together in a beautiful design by one thread," said Dave Armstrong, University director of mission effectiveness and campus ministries. Much like the deeper relationships, these students wove together in Le Puy.

"My trip to Le Puy demonstrated all that a woman is capable of, in the spirit of serving the dear neighbor without distinction," said Sommerhauser. For Berhorst, the trip to Le Puy intertwined the Avila mission, values and her future profession as a nurse. "Being a nurse is about caring for others irrespective of their creed, color or upbringing," said Berhorst. 🇫🇷



Mary Sommerhauser (left) and Morgan Berhorst (right) visit the grave of Mother St. John Fontbonne, CSJ, who refounded the Sisters of St. Joseph following the French Revolution.

University Singers in France

Another 30 students will travel to Le Puy-en-Velay, France, in the summer of 2019, as the Avila University Singers participate in the Paris Chorale Festival and the 75th commemoration of the D-Day landing.

You can help make the trip possible. Avila University will need to raise a minimum of \$60,000 to help fund the students' travel costs. Gifts of any amount will deliver a once-in-a-lifetime experience and global learning opportunity to these students.

Make your gift today at Avila.edu/Choir. 🇫🇷

Events that *Inspire*

1. Meet the nursing class of 2020. This fall, 51 students embarked on their journey through nursing school starting with the Gold Foundation White Coat Ceremony.
2. Students packed 12,500 meals for Harvesters, a regional food bank. The day of volunteering is an annual tradition for all first-year students.
3. On move-in day faculty, staff, and student volunteers pitched in to welcome first-year and transfer students to campus.
4. During Convocare, new students are introduced and presented with a flame that represents the entire Avila community, both past and present. Accepting the light, they are welcomed into the Avila community and challenged to live the Avila values in the world.
5. "Igniting the Flame" is a new campus tradition which brings the students, faculty, staff and their families together for a picnic dinner, games and fellowship. 🍴



2018 Alumni Survey

Thank you to the alumni who filled out our alumni survey over the summer! We appreciate your input, and look forward to sharing some of your feedback and information in the spring issue of Accent.

Avila Gifts

Still need some holiday gifts and want to showcase your Avila pride? The Office of Alumni Relations is selling Avila Christmas ornaments and Avila socks for \$10 each. Visit the alumni page at Avila.edu/Alumni to purchase your gifts today!



Stay Connected

You are part of a network of more than 13,000 Avila alumni across the country and around the world. There are several ways for you to stay connected and engaged with the Avila community.



Become an Alumni Partner: Be "in the know" about Avila while strengthening Avila's reputation and the value of your degree by becoming an alumni partner.



Mentor a student: Avila is looking for inspiring alumni to serve as mentors to undergraduate students.



Make a gift: Show your Avila passion by supporting current students. Visit Avila.edu/Give to learn more.

For questions about these opportunities or to learn about other ways to stay connected, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@avila.edu or 816.501.3780.

Save the Date for these upcoming alumni & friends events!

43RD ANNUAL STEER DINNER & AUCTION:

Saturday, February 2, 2019

CHEMISTRY OF BREWING BEER TASTING:

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

DEAR NEIGHBOR DAY:

Saturday, April 13, 2019

AVILA EASTER EGG HUNT:

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

SOCCER REUNION:

Saturday, May 4, 2019

FOOTBALL REUNION:

Saturday, May 4, 2019



Meet the Scholars

Pictured left: Students had the opportunity to meet their scholarship donors, including Marie Joan Harris, CSJ, Ph.D., Laverne Aufmuth, CSJ and Ruth Stuckel, CSJ, at the Meet the Scholars Reception in November.



This year marked the 70th anniversary of Avila's School of Nursing. It was the first baccalaureate nursing program in the Kansas City region. Avila nursing alumni are leaders in the healthcare field all over the world, with more than 2,000 living nursing alumni. Nearly 100 came back to campus to celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of Avila, and its alumni and current students.

1. NURSING LUNCHEON

(L to R): Lonna Boen, assistant professor of nursing, Sue King Willcox '79, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, Martha Blackman, assistant professor of nursing, Kate (LaTerza) Greub '14, Tricia (Daly) Lyon '00 and Haley Brown '00

More than 400 alumni and friends from 10 states and three continents came to campus to celebrate Homecoming Weekend 2018. Alumni from over the decades celebrated milestone reunions.

2. HERITAGE LUNCHEON

Celebrating 30 years, the Heritage Society has inducted more than 300 alumni and friends for including Avila in their estate plans or establishing endowed scholarships. Over Homecoming Weekend, six individuals were recognized as new members of the Heritage Society.

(Seated, L to R): Mary Kaplafka '85, James Kaplafka, Greg Lever '85, S. Rosemary Flanigan, CSJ, Ph.D. '47 (representing Ellen Dukes, Ph.D., '71), Paul Sullivan '86 (Standing, L to R): President Ron Slepitz, Ph.D., CSJA, and Michael Sullivan

3. CLASS OF 1958 60 REUNION

(Seated L to R): Bobbi (Hafner) Courville '58, S. Suzanne Giblin, CSJ, '58, Marianne (Jacobs) Hogan '58, Sheila (Stacy) Johnson '58 (Standing L to R): Virginia (Kopp) Coppinger '58, Mary Jo Bowman '58, Mary Parra '58, Margaret (Yonke) Murphy '58, Mary (O'Donnell) Fern '58, Fran (Myers) Lehane '58, Margaret (Burkhart) Walline '58

4. CLASS OF 1968 50 REUNION

(Seated L to R): Diane (Bishop) Boos '68, Sue (Audley) Chaffee '68, Marlo (Ayer) Gould '68, Edna Hamera '68, Patricia (Grebowiec) Higgins '68, Peggy (Clossick) Hurley '68 (Standing L to R): Jane (Waters) Carey '68, Mary Pat Beck '68, President Ron Slepitz, Ph.D., CSJA, Ann (Faughnan) Ronchetto '68, Geraldine (O'Leary) Schermoly-Schafer, Ph.D. '68, Sherry (King) McCune '68

5. CLASS OF 1973 45 REUNION

(Front row, L to R): Dr. Kathleen (Alford) Palmer '73, Marcia (Stewart) Walsh '73, Mary Cox '73, Maureen (O'Brien) Gilchrist '73, Kay (Tanner) Scott '73, Laura Rupp '73 (Back row, L to R): Mary Ellen (Fischer) Clark '73, Mary (Morse) Wirken '73, Martha Karigan-Winter '73, Kathleen (Harrington) Rundle '73, Jane (Adams) Brummel '73, Sally (Fecht) Alley '73

6. CLASS OF 1978 40 REUNION

L to R: Nancy Seibolt, MD, '78, Vicki (Frank) Hicks '78, Rose Marie Fowler-Swartz '78, Brenda (Kern) Prince, Ph.D. '78, '86

7. REUNION RECOGNITION

Helen Jane (Gray) Wald '46 was recognized with her 70-year pin.

8. 2018 ALUMNI AWARDS

The 2018 alumni awardees (seated, L to R): Michele Watley '09, '14, Mary Ann (McLeese) Mulligan '53, Mary Anne (Gripka) Flucke '54, '83, Susan Randolph '05, Ollie Thibeaux, Diane Ordway Thompson, Ph.D., '76 (Standing (L to R): Roberto Camacho '12, Marcia (Stewart) Walsh '73, Jennifer (Cromley) Hawkins '13, Kelby Schroeder '13, President Ron Slepitz, Ph.D., CSJA, Julie (Waters) McManus '67, Sherry McCombs '97, '00, Jeff Randolph '01, Miriam Maiden '07, Nyakio Kaniu-Lake '09



Mark your calendar for Homecoming Weekend 2019:
OCTOBER 3 - 6, 2019



Alumni Association

2018 ALUMNI AWARDEES

Outstanding Alumnus Award
MARCIA (STEWART) WALSH '73

Alumni Achievement Award
JULIE (WATERS) MCMANUS '67

Alumni Service Award
NYAKIO KANIU-LAKE '09

Recent Alumni Award
ROBERTO CAMACHO '12

ACADEMIC DEPT. ALUMNI AWARDEES

College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
JENNIPHER (CROMLEY) HAWKINS '13

School of Business
JEFF RANDOLPH '01 and
SUSAN RANDOLPH '05

School of Education
SHERRY MCCOMBS '97, '00

School of Nursing
KELBY SCHROEDER '13

School of Professional Studies
MIRIAM MAIDEN '07

School of Science & Health
DR. DIANE ORDWAY THOMPSON '75

School of Visual & Communication Arts
MICHELE WATLEY '09, '14

Honorary Alumnus
OLLIE THIBEAUX

Volunteers of the Year
MARY ANNE (GRIPKA) FLUCKE '54, '83
MARY ANN (MCLEESE) MULLIGAN '53

To nominate someone for the 2019 awards, please contact Bailey Carr, director of alumni relations and annual giving, at 816.501.3780 or alumni@avila.edu.



2018 Hall of Fame

Two individuals and one team were inducted into the Avila Athletics Hall of Fame during Homecoming Weekend. Inductees included Nick Field '13, baseball, Jan Humphreys, Athletics photographer, and the 2013 National Champion cheer team. 🏆

(Above L to R):

Paige (Snyder) Hewitt '14, Megan (Linder) Thrall '13, Dessie Sprouse '17, Nick Field '13, Jan Humphreys, Breanne Evans '13, Courtney Morgan '14, Megan (Morgan) Speer '11, ShaKaila Wright '15 (Second row L to R): Kelsey (Kattau) Butler, Taylor Stephenson '13, Ashlee (Steele) Williams '12, Melissa Shipman, coach, Anni Gallagher, Natalie Bristow '14, Gabby Sysavath, Gina Huber, Kaylen Peltier '15 (Back row L to R): Jackie Jimenez '16, Sarah Rubin '16, Shelby Fletcher '15, Jessica LoMaglio '16, Ann Roberts '16, Skylar Roberts '16, Morgan Brucks '14

Senior student and track and field participant, Helen Thames, and former baseball player, Brandon Chandler '17, were named the inaugural female and male athletes of the year. Thames was given the S. Ann Dominic Tassone Female Athlete of the Year honor for having the most decorated season in the history of Avila's track and field program in 2017. Chandler earned the Scott Royal Ferris Male Athlete of the Year for his outstanding seasons with Avila Eagle baseball team, including being on the All-Conference list three times in his four seasons. 🏆

Athletes of the Year

Check out your Eagles on Avila's Athletics website at AvilaAthletics.com.

★ 1890 ★

KCAC

KANSAS COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

New Conference. New Leadership.

Avila entered the 2018 athletic season in a new conference and with two new head coaches.

Avila joins the 13-member Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) this season in all 12 varsity sports. “The KCAC is made up of colleges and universities that reflect similar missions to Avila,” said Avila Athletic Director Cristina Cowan, ’10, ’15. “Joining the KCAC is a major step forward.”

Dana Goss brings a deep coaching history to the Eagle softball team as the team’s new head coach. Over 17 seasons, Goss’ teams at Benedictine College, Rockhurst University and Metropolitan Community College consistently set program records for lowest earned run averages. Her teams balance this great pitching with dynamic offenses, resulting in wins. “A great foundation of success has been laid over the past four years,” said Goss. “I’m very excited to start working with the team to continue to push to new heights.”

Marc Benavidez ’12 brings a unique perspective to the football program as the new head football coach after nearly 11 years as a student-athlete and assistant coach. “I cannot think of a single time in which this program has had so much excitement and promise,” said Benavides. “I am beyond excited.” [At the time Accent goes to print, the Eagles are ranked #21 in the NAIA with a 7-2 record, both firsts for the Avila program.] 📸





February 21, 22, 23 & 24



April 25, 26, 27 & 28

CHORAL PERFORMANCES

Winter Concert
Fauré Requiem
December 7, 2018
7:30 p.m.



Spring Concert
Paris Preview
May 3, 2019
7:30 p.m.



Reserve tickets online:
Avila.edu/tickets
or call 816.501.3699

CLASS NOTES

'53 MARY (MCLEESE) MULLIGAN was recognized as Avila University's 2018 Volunteer of the Year over Homecoming Weekend.

'54, '83 MARY GRIPKA FLUCKE was recognized Avila University's 2018 Volunteer of the Year over Homecoming Weekend.

'67 JULIE (WATERS) MCMANUS was the 2018 recipient of the Avila Alumni Achievement Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'67 JAN (MCCULLOUGH) TAYLOR joined Avila University's Board of Counselors in September 2018.

'68 MARLO (AYER) GOULD retired after working 25 years with Dennis C. Ayer, DDS, and 26 years with American Airlines. Marlo has three kids and five grandkids.

'68 EDNA HAMERA is a nursing professor at the University of Kansas. She also has a clinical practice as a psychiatric nurse practitioner. She volunteers with Master Natavotists where she collects, cleans and sows wildflower seeds, and teaches kids water testing.

'68 KATHLEEN (FLYNN) MENDENHALL is currently working as an adjunct professor in photography with Avila University. She also teaches history of photography as an adjunct professor at Johnson County Community College. Kathleen is now enjoying her 50th year of teaching and spending time with her daughter and grandson.

'68 GERALDINE (O'LEARY) SCHERMOLY-SCHAFER spent her career as a teacher. She was a professor at Eastern Kentucky University, Arkansas State University, Metropolitan Community College, Harris Stowe State College and was principal for the Kansas and Missouri schools for the handicapped. She now volunteers as a tutor and with her church.

'71 CHRISTINE FRITCHEL and husband, Tom, own Lost Creek Winery outside Hermann, Missouri. Classmates from the class 1971 recently visited Chris. "Wonderful day with old friends sharing old times!" (pictured to right)

'73 SALLY (FECHTEL) ALLEY is retired from teaching as an adjunct instructor at State Fair Community College. She taught developmental English. Now she enjoys walking, reading, playing word games and spending time at the Lake of the Ozarks.

'73 TERRY CALDWELL is a retired family nurse practitioner. His career included Army nurse from 1971-96 where he retired lieutenant colonel. He also worked as mental health nurse clinician and community health nurse. He has worked at Southern Arizona VA in Tucson, Arizona, where he started the Psychiatric Primary Care Clinic and Telehealth program. To celebrate his recent 30-year marriage to his wife, Ruth, the two biked along the Danube River.

'73 KARIN (SPINNER) CAPRON is retired from the U.S. EPA where she worked as a chemist for 30 years. She currently volunteers as a Eucharistic Minister; she is a board member and fair organizer for Kansas for Life, a tree steward for the Heartland Tree Alliance and board member of the Mission Park Recreation and Tree Commission.

'73 MAUREEN (O'BRIEN) GILCHRIST is retired. She is expecting her sixth grandchild in February, and volunteers as a Eucharistic Minister at St. Luke's East in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

'73 KATHLEEN (ALFOND) PALMER recently moved back to the Kansas City area from living in Washington, D.C., for 40 years. She is a retired educator from the Arlington Virginia Public Schools; her career included teaching and school administration.

'73 PATRICIA (MCANDREW) RETZLAFF is retired after working 31 years for the Texas



Department of Public Safety in the Crime Laboratory where she was doing DNA testing. Currently, she is the president of the Waco Euterpean Music Club and volunteers with the St. Catherine's Nursing Home Chapel as the Eucharistic Minister, Sacristan and song leader.

'73 MARCIA (STEWART) WALSH was the 2018 recipient of Avila's Outstanding Alumnus Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'73 MARY (MORSE) WIRKEN is currently taking care of three of her six grandchildren full-time. She is expecting another grandchild in February. Mary enjoys travel, anything outside, dancing and speaking time with grandchildren and family.

'75 DIANE ORDWAY THOMPSON was the 2018 recipient of Avila's School of Science & Health Alumni Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'76 DAVID HUDSON joined Avila University's Board of Counselors in September 2018.

'76 JEAN (STAPLETON) RAVEILL retired in October from Jackson County Health Department with Truman Medical Center after 30 years of service.

'78 JACQUELINE (JOHNSON) BOWLS retired June 4, 2018, after working in the field of education for 39 years; most of those years were spent teaching elementary art.

'79 CARYL GOODYEAR, PH.D., RN, NEA-BC, CCRN-K, became one of 195 nurse leaders to join the prestigious group of The American Academy of Nursing Fellows. The induction ceremony was held in Washington, D.C. The ANA serves the public and the nursing profession by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis and dissemination of nursing knowledge. The Academy's

more than 2,300 fellows are nursing's most accomplished leaders in education, management, practice and research. They have been recognized for their extraordinary contributions to nursing and health care.

'79 TERRY FISHER and husband, Bob, were given the Medal of Honor over Homecoming Weekend for their service and dedication to Avila University over the years.

'84 GWENDOLYN (HASH) ROACH was recently appointed principal to the Father Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia, Mo.

'85 SUSANNA VELASQUEZ-EATON moved to Norfolk, Virginia, in May of 2018, after living in Los Angeles for 16 years, where she continues to work in the film and television industry. Recently she worked on the independent feature film, PAST SHADOWS, as line producer alongside her husband and the director, Peter Eaton. In addition, she portrays Dr. Hernandez in the film, (pictured above).

'88 ROBERT SCOLES performed in "She Stoops to Conquer" with The Bell Road Barn Players in June of 2018.

'90 OLIVIA DAVENPORT recently wrote and published a book titled "Epic Journey." The book is a Christian devotional written to encourage a serious examination of our personal journey with Jesus Christ. The book was published by Westbow Press, a division of Zondervan, and is available online from Westbow Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble in hardcover, softcover and e-book format.

'96 ANGELA (FISHER) DANLEY earned her doctorate in 2012 and received a scholarly activity award from University of Central Missouri in 2016 and 2017, and was recently promoted to associate professor in 2018.

'97 CANDIS (SMITH) PFALTZGRAF recently became a volunteer with Assistance League of Kansas City. She also serves as board member for the HOA of Barrybrooke, and the proud grandmother of six children.

'97, '00 SHERRY MCCOMBS was the 2018 recipient of Avila's School of Education Alumni Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'97, '02 ERIC SCHROER recently became the social studies teacher at Lone Jack High School where he is also the head boys' basketball coach.

'97 GIL TROUT left UMB Bank after 30 years to lead the commercial banking team at Emprise Bank.

'98 KATE EGAN is the company manager for Harry Potter and the Cursed Child on Broadway. In June, the show was nominated for 10 Tony Awards, winning six including Best Play.

'98 SHANE SANDS received his master's degree in administration from National University in 2015. He then began working as assistant principal of Murrieta Canyon Academy, and Alternative Education K-12 School and Adult School.

'00 NIKKI BREVIG recently accepted a counseling position with MFL MarMac Schools in Monona, Iowa.

'00 WILLIAM GLEESON recently became the varsity boys' soccer coach for Mexico High School in Mexico, Missouri. Gleeson also works in the Mexico, Missouri School District as a math teacher in the middle school.

'02 DR. ANNE HEYEN, was reappointed to the Missouri State Board of Nursing. Dr. Heyen is an assistant teaching professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Dr. Heyen holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice from Rush University, a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Avila College. She has been a certified nurse educator since 2015. Previously, Dr. Heyen was an associate professor of nursing at Lincoln University and has provided nursing care at the Surgery Center of Columbia and SSM-St. Mary's Hospital in Jefferson City, Missouri.

CLASS NOTES

'02 **GERALD PALMER** recently accepted the position, director of social services at the Seton Center, Inc., of Kansas City.

'05 **MICHAEL ADAMSON** was recently promoted as the president and CEO of Aircraft Electronics Association. Adamson will lead the AEA from its international headquarters in Lee's Summit, Missouri, which represents nearly 1,300 member companies in more than 40 countries, including avionics manufacturers and government-certified international repair stations specializing in maintenance, repair and installation of avionics and electronic systems in general aviation aircraft.

'05 **ROBERT EWING** retired from the Kansas City Missouri School District in September 2018.

'05 **JEFF** & '01 **SUSAN RANDOLPH** were co-recipients of Avila's School of Business Alumni Award for 2018 over Homecoming Weekend.

'06 **KIMBERLY (JONES) JAMES** married Ronnie James on April 28, 2018.

'07 **MIRIAM MAIDEN** was the 2018 recipient of Avila's School of Professional Studies Alumni Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'08, '14 **ASHLEY (FORD) BLACK** joined Avila University's Alumni Board in May 2018.

'08 **ASHLEY (REAGAN)** and '07 **ZACH CHOATE** welcomed their second child, Zane Michael, on July 31. He weighed seven pounds, six ounces.

'08 **REGINA MADDUX RUETH** married Aaron Rueth on August 11, 2018 (pictured top left).

'09, '11 **VERONICA (PILSHAW) GOETZ** married Rob Goetz on June 23 at Arrowhead Stadium. Veronica works as an account manager for DH Pace in Olathe, Kansas, (pictured top right).

'09, '14 **MAX HASSELQUIST** and wife, Hannah, welcomed their second child, a son, Bowie Michael Peter on September 25. He joins big sister, Monroe, (pictured bottom left).

'09 **NYAKIO KANIU-LAKE** was the 2018 recipient of Avila's Alumni Service Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'09 **ANDY PERKINS** is serving as an adjunct professor in the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences at Avila University.

'09 **MICHELE WATLEY** is serving as an adjunct professor with the School of Visual & Communication Arts at Avila University. Watley was also the 2018 recipient of Avila's School of Visual & Communication Arts Alumni Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'09 **KATRINA (WALTERS) WILLIAMS** married Michael Williams on October 5, 2018, (pictured bottom right).

'10 **HEATHER HUETTNER** was named Outstanding Elementary Art Educator of the Year 2018-19 by the Shawnee Mission School District.

'10 **BEN NICHOLS** is expecting his fourth child and is currently working at Johnson County Mental Health.

'11 **RACHEL MEYER** is now engaged and working as the assistant project director for wraparound services at Northcare in Oklahoma City. She is also working on her MSW to be completed in August 2019.

'11 **CARRI (BOERCKEL) WOODS** is working at St. Luke's East in the NICU and has twin girls with her husband.

'11 **JAKE ZINN** was recently promoted to senior broker at System Target.

'12, '14 **LISA (YORK) ATKINSON** joined Avila University's Board of Counselors in September 2018.

'12 **JAKOBB BALDWIN** recently accepted the position of pre-employment instructor with Easter Seals Midwest.

'12 **MARC BENAVIDEZ** is now the head coach of the Avila University football team where they have the best record in program history.

'12 **ROBERTO CAMACHO** was the 2018 recipient of Avila's Recent Alumni Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'12 **BEN DIERKES** married Clare Goodson on May 5, 2018. The couple resides in Columbia, Missouri.

'12 **PAUL HILLBRAND** received his master's degree in marine and environmental science on May 21, 2018. After taking some time off from studies, Hillbrand hopes to continue his research to help save endangered hawksbill turtles through a Ph.D. program.

'12 **SHAWNA PENA-DOWNING** joined Avila University's Alumni Board in May 2018.



'08 RUETH



'09, '11 GOETZ



'09, '14 HASSELQUIST



'09 WILLIAMS

'13 NICK FIELD was inducted into the Hall of Fame for his baseball career at Avila University.

'13 JENNIPHER (CROMLEY) HAWKINS recently joined the Jackson County Juvenile Office as an attorney for the Juvenile Office, a branch of the prosecutor's office. She handles abuse and neglect cases for the state and prosecute juvenile delinquency cases. Hawkins was also the 2018 recipient of Avila's College of Liberal Arts & Social Science Alumni Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'13 TERESA KUPPINGER recently joined AmeriCorps and is working as the construction crew leader for Habitat for Humanity.

'13 KELBY SCHROEDER was the 2018 recipient of Avila's School of Nursing Alumni Award over Homecoming Weekend.

'13 HEATHER TICE recently bought a house, adopted two dogs and is currently working two jobs. She is a transition counselor with Vocational Rehabilitation working with high school students and she does PRN work with Saint Luke's, screening for suicide for inpatient psych treatment.

'14 KARESSA GIBSON married Nehemia O'Neal on September 9, 2018 in Galveston, Texas, (pictured top left).

'14 PAIGE (SNYDER) HEWITT and husband, **JOSH '12** welcomed their second daughter, Collins Mae on April 30, 2018, (pictured top right).

'14 JASON LEONE recently became an assistant baseball coach with Southwest Oregon Community College.

'14 KEIANA MOYER owns a successful dance studio and coaches a high school dance team.

'14 MELISSA SEABAUGH recently got a new job as an associate attorney at Gibbes Burton, LLC, a law firm in Spartanburg, South Carolina, specializing in construction and design, commercial and corporate, employment and benefits, and professional negligence.

'14 MARIE BALLINGER SMITH recently bought her first house.

'14 ALLIE (STAMER) WISSMANN and husband Michael Wissman, welcomed their first child, Hadley Grace, on June 11, 2018. She was eight pounds, seven ounces and was 22 inches long, (pictured center left).

'15 AIMEE (ADAMS) YABUT and husband, Michael, welcomed their first child, Brixton Michael Yabut, on August 24, 2018, (pictured bottom left).

'15 AUSTIN ARMSTRONG AND **'15, '17 BRIANNA (PETERS) ARMSTRONG** were united in marriage on June 2, 2018, (pictured center right).

'15 LAUREN BABOCK and fiancé, **'15 JOE ROBERTS** welcomed their first child, Scarlett Corrinne Roberts on June 19, 2018, (pictured bottom center).

'15 REBEKAH (CAPEDER) GILDAY and **'13 TIM GILDAY** welcomed their first child, Beau Stetson Gilday on July 2, 18. He was seven pounds, one ounce and 20.25 inches long, (pictured bottom right).



'14 GIBSON



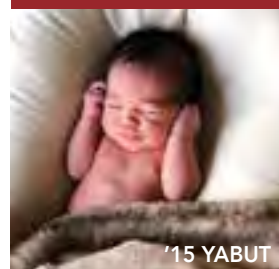
'14 HEWITT



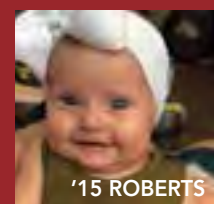
'14 WISSMANN



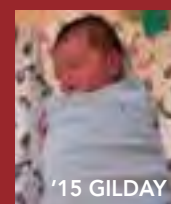
'15 ARMSTRONG



'15 YABUT



'15 ROBERTS



'15 GILDAY

'15 COLBI HOWSER recently accepted a position with Industrial Fumigant Company.

'15 LAURA (WATSON) KING recently accepted the position of assistant registrar for UMKC.

'15 CASEY NICKLE and **'15 MAX WILLIAMS** were married on November 3, 2018.

'16 DEREK PUGH recently became a project manager for DHI Roofing.

'17 BRANDON CHANDLER received the inaugural Male Athlete of the Year Award from Avila University. Chandler was awarded this at the Hall of Fame Ceremony over Homecoming Weekend.

'17 WESLEY PAGE recently accepted the high school social studies teaching position with Springfield Catholic High School where he also serves as assistant coach to both the football and baseball teams.

'17 ELIZABETH OLESON ROGERS is now serving as a school social worker for the Kansas City School District.

Stay Connected

We want to hear from you! Job promotion, new baby, recent travels or new home? Let us know so we can share your good news! Email your news to alumni@avila.edu or complete the What's New With You form at Avila.edu/Alumni.

In Memoriam

To make a gift in memory of your loved one,
please visit Avila.edu/Donate or call 816.501.3602.

'50 MARYAN (HAKE) JONES passed away on September 19, 2018. Jones received her bachelor's degree in English from the College of St. Teresa in 1950.

'53 KATHLEEN (FLAHERTY) CRESTO passed away on September 4, 2018. Cresto received her bachelor's degree in home economics from the College of St. Teresa in 1953.

'53 MARY (OTTENSTEIN) FOGARTY passed away on May 4, 2018. Fogarty received her bachelor's degree in education from the College of St. Teresa in 1953.

'55 MARY (GATLING) RUFÉ passed away on September 15, 2018. Rufe received her bachelor's degree in nursing from the College of St. Teresa in 1955.

'57 SALLIE (RIELLEY) FRYE passed away on May 22, 2018. Frye received her bachelor's degree in English from the College of St. Teresa in 1957.

'58 JOANNE (PARROTT) COUTURE passed away on May 8, 2018. Couture received her bachelor's degree in English from the College of St. Teresa in 1958.

'58 Marianne (Geier) Souders passed away on August 5, 2018. Souders received her bachelor's degree in business administration from the College of St. Teresa in 1958.

'59 CARMELLA (SHORTINO) GIANGRECO passed away on July 22, 2018. Giangreco received her bachelor's degree in education from the College of St. Teresa in 1959.

'59 MARGARET (WALTERS) GOSSELIN passed away on August 21, 2018. Gosselin attended the College of St. Teresa in 1959.

'60 JOYCE (HUFF) SOETAERT passed away on May 22, 2018. Soetaert received her bachelor's degree in English from the College of St. Teresa in 1960.

'64 SAMMIE (HOGGARD) MILLS passed away on August 8, 2018. Mills received her bachelor's degree in medical record administration from Avila College in 1964.

'65 MARGARET (CRAWFORD) STEUNENBERG passed away on June 1, 2018. Steunenberg received her bachelor's degree in nursing from Avila College in 1965.

'69 MARY SCHROEPFER passed away on July 3, 2018. Schroeffer received her bachelors in Elementary Education from Avila College in 1969.

'76 MARY (SLAUGHTER) VINCENT passed away on June 24, 2018. Vincent received her bachelor's degree in elementary

'79 JANE (CRUTCHER) HOLOHAN passed away on August 31, 2018. Holohan received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Avila College in 1979.

'79 STEPHEN MCCOY passed away on May 8, 2018. McCoy received his bachelor's degree in special education from Avila College in 1979.

'80 CHARLES ELVIN passed away on June 20, 2018. Elvin received his bachelor's degree in accounting from Avila College in 1980.

'81 SHARON (SPENCER) HOWARD passed away on September 3, 2018. Howard received her bachelor's degree in nursing from Avila College in 1981.

'83 HARRY MCCLURE passed away on June 7, 2018. McClure received his MBA in accounting from Avila College in 1983.

'84 LINDA (SEEVER) KESSLER passed away on October 6, 2018. Kessler received her bachelor's degree in accounting from Avila College in 1984.

'84 CAROL (ASHCRAFT) LYNCH passed away on May 10, 2018. Lynch received her bachelor's degree in nursing from Avila College in 1984.

'85 HOLLY (LITTLEJOHN) DAVIS passed away on June 25, 2018. Davis received her bachelor's degree in social work from Avila College in 1985.

'88 DONALD LANGE passed away on May 14, 2018. Lange received his bachelor's degree in personnel from Avila College in 1988.

'92 DEREK MOORHEAD passed away on July 17, 2018. Moorhead received his bachelor's degree in political science from Avila College in 1992. Moorhead also taught classes and led mock-trial teams at Avila University as an alumnus.

'94 REVEREND SUELLEN (HOFFMEISTER) WOOD passed away on May 29, 2018. Wood received her bachelor's degree in social work from Avila College in 1994.

SANDY BOOKMEYER passed away on July 2, 2018. Sandy was married to Paul Bookmeyer, who served as Avila's vice president for finance and administrative services for 14 years before his retirement in 2015.

DOROTHY HAUSER, a longtime volunteer and supporter of Avila University, passed away on July 31, 2018.

NORMA MITCHELL, a longtime supporter of Avila University and a member of the Heritage Society, passed away on July 3, 2018.



'68 CAROL JEAN (STIPETCH) DEFEO passed away on October 21, 2018. She received her bachelor's degree in mathematics from Avila College in 1968. DeFeo was one of the first members of Avila's Class Alumni Partner (CAP) program, and served on the Avila Alumni Board for several years. In 2005, she was given the distinguished honor as Lifetime Alumni Board Member. In 2010, DeFeo received the Outstanding Alumna Award. She joined the Heritage Society in 2012. DeFeo was quoted as saying, "Avila taught me more than the algorithms of my major in mathematics. It opened my mind to new concepts, exposed me to the cultures and philosophies of the world beyond Kansas City, and what it means to be committed to lifelong learning."



Avila Heritage Society

Cheryl Bluhm '77

Inducted into Avila's Heritage Society in 2015, Cheryl Bluhm '77 understands the importance of paying it forward for the future. "I want more nurses in this world that can not only help care for patients but truly care about them too," said Bluhm. "I know Avila's nursing program is doing just that. They helped me achieve my dream, and now I want to do the same for future nurses." Bluhm established an endowed scholarship in her estate plan to benefit future students in the School of Nursing. Through the Avila Heritage Society, her legacy will live on long after she is gone.

Established in 1988, the Heritage Society recognizes the remarkable contributions of alumni and friends who support Avila with a gift in their will or estate plans. Or, like Bluhm, through the creation of an endowed scholarship. Through Bluhm's gift, generations of Avila nurses will learn the lessons she

learned. "The patients were always my number one priority," said Bluhm. "Norma Lewis Lavik ('58) taught us to always stand up for our patients."

Bluhm grew up in Sedalia, Missouri, and found her way to Avila as a non-traditional student after community college and working for a few years. She was a secretary at Bothwell Memorial Hospital when one of the doctors asked her if she was going to do that forever. That was the spark she needed. She still had the nursing bible that her grandfather, John Bluhm, gave her when she was 12-years old. "My grandfather was a real inspiration for me to finally chase my nursing dream."

After graduating from Avila, Bluhm spent most of her 33-year nursing career in cardiac pulmonary. She worked as a nurse for various hospitals, rehabilitation facilities and care center facilities in Sedalia, Kansas City and Clinton, Missouri.

As the 30th anniversary of the Heritage Society was celebrated at this year's Homecoming Weekend, Avila welcomed six more individuals into the society:

- Ann H. Cathcart '82
- Mary A. '85 & James P. Kaplafka
- Gregory A. Lever '85
- Jeanne Schmidt Zagorac
Memorial Nursing Scholarship
- Paul S. & Kathryn W. Sullivan
Endowment Fund
- Norma L. Lewis Lavik '58
Endowed Scholarship

Together, their gifts and the gifts of all the members of the Heritage Society, help make an Avila education possible for generations of students. 🏡

We invite you to join the hundreds of friends and alumni, just like Cheryl Bluhm '77, who have already planned their legacy at Avila. Making a planned gift to Avila can be done in several simple and savvy ways without reducing your income or diminishing your savings.

Call us today to learn more and to make a lasting impact. Contact JT Cattle, director of development, at 816.501.3696 or JT.Cattle@avila.edu.





Building on Our Promise

Avila University's 43rd annual

Steer Dinner & Auction

February 2, 2019

Rodd & Martha '66 Staker, Honorary Chairs • Kevin & Patricia '00 Lyon, Event Chairs

Kansas City Marriott Downtown, Muehlebach Tower • Steak Dinner • Live & Silent Auction
Tables of 10 \$2,500 • Individual tickets \$250 • Recent alumni tickets \$85 (for 2008-18 classes)

All proceeds benefit Avila University student scholarships. Sponsorship packages are available.

For more information, please call 816.501.2450 or email SteerDinner@avila.edu.

Avila.edu/Steer